AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) A data management system comprising:

a first transmission portion sending an inquiry mail from a client to a server for inquiring about a folder tree structure at the server;

a second transmission portion, at said server, transmitting a <u>pictorial</u> representation of the folder tree structure <u>in text format</u> to said client by mail in response to the inquiry mail sent from said client;

a third transmission portion, at said client, designating a storage folder within the folder tree structure contained in the mail sent from said server in the form of a reply to the mail sent from said server by altering the <u>pictorial</u> representation of the folder tree structure contained in the mail sent from said server, and sending a reply mail with the altered <u>pictorial</u> representation of the folder tree structure <u>in text format</u> and an attached file to said server; and

a storage portion, at said server, storing the attached file in the storage folder as designated in the reply mail, in response to the reply mail sent from said client.

2.   (Currently Amended) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein, ~~said second transmission portion sends the representation of the folder tree structure to the client in text format, and~~ when receiving the <u>pictorial</u> representation of the folder tree structure in <u>the</u> text format, said third transmission

portion designates a storage folder for storage of the attached file by quoting the text contained in the mail sent from said server.

3.   (Currently Amended) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein said second transmission portion sends the pictorial representation of the folder tree structure in text format converted into to the client in HTML format to the client, and when receiving the representation of the folder tree structure converted into the HTML format, said third transmission portion designates a storage folder for storage of the attached file by clicking the storage folder.

4.   (Previously Presented) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein said second transmission portion performs authentication by comparing client information described in the inquiry mail sent from the client with client information as registered, and sends the representation of the folder tree structure by mail only to the client that is successfully authenticated.

5.   (Previously Presented) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein said second transmission portion sends by mail only a representation of the folder tree structure that can be accessed by the client that is successfully authenticated.

6.   (Previously Presented) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein said second transmission portion sends a character string of encrypted information indicative of a current log-in together with the representation of

the folder tree structure when sending the representation of the folder tree structure to the client by mail.

7.   (Previously Presented) The data management system according to claim 6, wherein upon reception of a reply mail from said client, said storage portion determines whether the encrypted character string that has been sent previously is described in the reply mail, and stores the attached file in the designated storage folder only when the encrypted character string is described in the reply email.

8.   (Previously Presented) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein said third transmission portion attaches and sends a plurality of files to one reply mail.

9.   (Previously Presented) The data management system according to claim 1, wherein said third transmission portion sends a reply mail in a format that allows a plurality of files to be stored in respective different folders.

10.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium having a data management program recorded thereon for causing a computer to execute:

a first step of sending a pictorial representation of a folder tree structure in text format to a client by mail in response to an inquiry mail sent from the client; and

a second step of storing an attached file in a designated storage folder when a reply mail is received from said client with an attached file by determining the designated storage folder in the folder tree structure based on an alteration of the

<u>pictorial</u> representation of the folder tree structure <u>in text format</u> contained in the mail

sent at said first step that is sent in the reply mail from the client.

11.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable recording medium

according to claim 10, wherein, at said first step, the data management program

causes the computer to perform authentication by comparing client information

described in the inquiry mail sent from the client with client information as registered,

and a representation of the folder tree structure is sent by mail only to the client that

is successfully authenticated.

12.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable recording medium

according to claim 11, wherein, at said first step, the data management program

causes the computer to send by mail only a representation of the folder tree

structure that can be accessed by the client that is successfully authenticated.

13.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable recording medium

according to claim 10, wherein, at said first step, the data management program

causes the computer to send a character string of encrypted information indicative of

a current log-in together with the representation of the folder tree structure when the

representation of the folder tree structure is sent to the client by mail.

14.   (Previously Presented) The computer-readable recording medium

according to claim 13, wherein, at said second step, upon reception of a reply mail

from said client, the data management program causes the computer to determine

whether the encrypted character string that has been sent previously is described in the reply mail, and store the attached in the designated storage folder only when the encrypted character string is determined to be described in the reply email.

15.   (Cancelled)

16.   (Currently Amended) The data management program product according to claim 10, wherein, at said first step, the data management program causes the computer to ~~send~~ convert the pictorial representation of the folder tree structure into ~~to the client in~~ HTML format and send the mail in HTML format to the client.

17.   (Currently Amended) A data management server comprising:

a transmission portion sending a pictorial representation of a folder tree structure in text format to a client by mail in response to an inquiry mail sent from the client; and

a storage portion storing an attached file into a designated storage folder when a reply mail is received from said client with an attached file by determining the designated storage folder in the folder tree structure based on an alteration of the pictorial representation of the folder tree structure in text format contained in the mail sent by said transmission portion that is sent in the reply mail from said client.

18.   (Original) The data management server according to claim 17, wherein processing is changed in accordance with a title of a mail sent from the client.

19.   (Previously Presented) The data management server according to claim 18, wherein a representation of the folder tree structure is sent to the client only when the title of the mail sent from the client implies an inquiry about the folder tree structure.

20.   (Previously Presented) The data management server according to claim 18, wherein the attached file is stored only when the title of the reply mail sent from the client implies storage of the attached file.

21.   (Previously Presented) The data management server according to claim 1, wherein said third transmission portion designates the storage folder by inserting a blank line below the storage folder in the representation of the folder tree structure contained in the mail sent from said server, in the reply mail sent to said server.

22.   (Previously Presented) The data management server according to claim 1, wherein said third transmission portion is configured to designate the attached file to be stored in a plurality of different storage folders within the folder tree structure by inserting a blank line below each storage folder in the representation of the folder tree structure contained in the mail sent from said server, in the reply mail sent to said server.

23.   (Currently Amended) The data management server according to claim 1, wherein said third transmission portion is configured to designate a plurality of attached files to be stored in a plurality of different storage folders by inserting, for each of the plurality of attached files, a respective numerical character corresponding to an order in which the attached files are identified in the reply email, below a representation of a respective one of the plurality of ~~files~~ folders in which the attached files are to be stored.